



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Frederick J. Fritz, Michael H. Tardugno, Reuben Zielinski, and  
Randall R. Tucker

Application No.: 09/804,982

Group: 2643

Filed: March 13, 2001

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: Hearing Aid with Tinted Components

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231	
on <u>June 6, 2001</u>	<u><i>Sharon G. Carlisle</i></u>
Date	Signature
<u>Sharon G. Carlisle</u>	
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as  
follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the Related Applications paragraph at page 1, lines 2 through 14 with the  
following paragraph:

09804982-060301



## RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/524,501 filed March 13, 2000 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2008-001 (SB-1023)), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/263,593 filed March 5, 1999 (Attorney's Docket SAR-11999C), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 08/815,852 filed March 12, 1997, now U.S. Patent 5,881,159 (Attorney's Docket SAR-11999A), the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference. U.S. Application 09/524,501 claims benefit to Application Nos. 60/157,972 filed October 6, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2008-000 (SAR-13416), 60/157,870 filed October 6, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2006-000 (SAR-13417), 60/145,321 filed July 23, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. SMI-13621p (SAR-13621), and 60/161,214 filed October 22, 1999 (Attorney's Docket SAR-13655p), the entire teachings of each being incorporated herein by reference.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

T09090-28642860

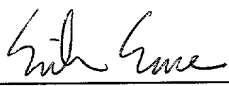


CONCLUSION

The foregoing amendment has clarified the chain of priority of this case. No new priority claims have been made. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 6, 2001

09804982-060801

MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTSSpecification Amendments Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii)

Replace the Related Applications paragraph at page 1, lines 2 through 14 with the below paragraph marked up by way of bracketing and underlining to show the changes relative to the previous version of the paragraph.

## RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/524,501 filed March 13, 2000 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2008-001 (SB-1023)), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/263,593 filed March 5, 1999 (Attorney's Docket SAR-11999C), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 08/815,852 filed March 12, 1997, now U.S. Patent 5,881,159 (Attorney's Docket SAR-11999A), the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference. [This application also] U.S. Application 09/524,501 claims benefit to Application Nos. 60/157,972 filed October 6, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2008-000 (SAR-13416), 60/157,870 filed October 6, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. 2506.2006-000 (SAR-13417), 60/145,321 filed July 23, 1999 (Attorney's Docket No. SMI-13621p (SAR-13621), and 60/161,214 filed October 22, 1999 (Attorney's Docket SAR-13655p), the entire teachings of each being incorporated herein by reference.

09804982-050801